THE IDLER'S GOSSIP.

TWO GOOD COONSTORES AND SOMETHING ABOUT WHALING.

Some of Richmend's Handsome Realow
Jim Wood Lost His Hal-Cap
tain Cock's Dry Hamor.

If Miss Hurricane, the buxom old maid so well known to the lovers of the "Lutte Tycoon," were to ask lack Brownels"
"Have you seen the whale?" the lastes could respond with perfect wars unlies when he sees the "Idler," for on one occasion he work of the seems of the handsomes tellows in the lawyers war good clother and always in present and always ingress and always ingress and always ingress and always in the lawyers war good clother and always to have a weathly a seem of the present point in the lace and the more frequently lought the side of the seems of the latter was always in the latter was always to be a seem to be always to be a seem to be always to be a seem to be a

They were gathered together in a drugstore, and vied with each other in mendacity. First one and then another spun a yarn until it seemed to those who listened that Jules Verne and Baron Mun-Prom this it difficulty speaking, varmints.

The champion sweep stake har related an incident about several darkies who an incident about several darkies who went to chase the ring-tailed quadruped of the Virginia forests. The dogs trailed the animal to a large tree which overhung a stream, and after much persuasion the coon was shaken down and fell into the water. The darkies, the hounds, and the "varmint" himself were all wild with excitement, and so great was the confusion that one of the negroes, in the exiberance of his spirits, fell headlong into the stream. And then, indeed, the water got into a chaotic state, and the splashing was tremendous. To make matters worse, the canines plunged in, too, and in the great hub-bub that ensued it was hard to tell by the moonlight which was the 'coon, which was the darkey, and which were the dogs. The hunters, armed with big sticks, stood on shore and waited for an opportunity to strike their prey on his head as he bobbed up out of the stream. Suddenly one

In his confidential moments the "Idler" has frequently taken occasion to express his admiration for certain ladies in this centy, but he was atterwards so severely censured by the little being of his existence (his mother, of course,) that he has almost resolved never to say anything else about another woman as long as he lives. At any rate, he thinks his own sex ought to come in for some of the praise, although one of his lady friends, on hearing of his intentions in this line, said: "For goodness sake don't say anything about the men, they are conceited enough anyhow." This may be true, and doubtless is, but for all that it can't keep a man from being handsome, if he really is. Now, take Tom Bolling, for instance, Pud look at him when next he appears in his full-dress suit. He is certainly good-locking, and, what is more, his gray hair gives him a distingue look which never fails to attract. His brother Charles is likewise blessed in the same manner. But, goodness! you should city, but he was afterwards so severely

The building formerly occupied by the Planters' National Bank, which has just been pulled down to make place for a me new structure to be erected in chausen had long since been put to the blush. It was a strictly masculine, to-baccosmoke party, and therefore after every other subject had been exhausted, the conversation turned upon hunting. From this it dritted to 'coons—four-legged 'coons, or, more strictly speaking, varmius, and the amount of bills and coin placed in Na. The stone of the valit used for the storage of the money came from the old Traders' Bank, and the amount of bills and coin placed in the conversation were placed. if from time to time must have amounted to something like \$250,000,000. Just think of all that cash and the happiness and trouble it must have brought in the course of its circulation! The IDLE REPORTES.

in the case of the

New York, March 19.—The total visible supply of cotton for the world is 4,452,539 baies, of which 4,054,339 bales are American against 3,339,890 and 2,718,029 bales, respectively, last year. Receipts at all interior towns, 53,873 bales. Receipts from the plantations, 69,686. Crop in sight, 8,221,-755.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.] Austin, Tex., March 19.—An enthusiastic Mills caucus was held last night in which were eight supporters of Mr. Culberson's late candidacy. This insures a fair division tor Mills of Culberson's supporters and seems to make his election (to the United States Senate) sure.

Parts for a Who's Constellation.
[Brooklyn Life.]

"Now, let's see," said the playwright:
"you want a play with one star part,
and —"
"Operator.

## THE CITY OF MEXICO.

A PICTURE OF THE "POOR INDIAN" AS SEEN BY A RICHMOND MAN.

Statues, Edifices, Paintings, and Scenes-In the Magnificent Capital Contrasted with the Lowly, Despised Race.

[Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.] Cirr of Mexico, March 9.-To put this city in a letter would be to empty a lake into a wineglass. I take the least thing in. it, "the poor Indian"-clad as in the days of the Spanish invasion; trotting under burdens strapped around his forehead and body, under which a burro could not move, paddling his dugout with stolid indifference about the "floating gardens," or poling the barge with sturdy arms and or poling the barge with sturdy arms and naked legs down "De Vega" to Lake Texeoco, which surrounded the city. Then Tenochtitlan, where the crafty Cortez entered it, and when the bloody Alvarado field from it. The poor Indian, if he could only see it, is now vindicated by the monument to Gautemotzen, the grandest on Maximilian's Paseo de la Reforma, the great drive of the city: the colossal statue in the National Palace, and the artistic sarcophagus of the Indian President Jearez; and the diligence of science in discovering the key of his ancient language, to decipher the monumental inscriptions, now being couled in plaster for exhibition at the World's Fair.

the executioner.

LAST WAB COUNCIL.

What visitor does not stand mute under the branches of the grant tree, where the last war council of Cuauhtemo was held, and linger about Chapultepec, on which the Citizen President has his summer villa? Each of the 137 churches surrounding "the Cathedral" has its story ecclesis astic or legendary, and the Cathedral has more of interest in art and sepulture than them all. Yet the great interest of this fourth grandest edifice of the world is that it stands on the site of the ancient Indian Temple. The best symbol of the Indian, viewed in the light of his past history, is the exhausted Navado de Tolluca and the more silent and snow-crowned Popopeltpelt exhausted in active powers, but worthy of more consideration than all the flaming magnificence of this magnificent city. The most famous paintings of the National Academy of Art is a priest defending an Indian, even to the death of her adversary.

A DESPIRED BACE. LAST WAR COUNCIL.

priest defending an Indian, even to the death of her adversary.

A DEFIRED BACE.

How suggestive this of the Christian duty to the ten thousands of these poor souls who throng the marrow streets and humble abodes of the eastern part of the city, containing some 200,000 neglected poor! The varied beauty and glory of this great city, abounding in all that fascinates the senses, and addresses the social, intellectual, and astiletical nature, make more interesting the gloom that rests upon a people who once roamed our hemisphere from the American lakes to the Caribbean Sea, and now the most despised of all the children of men. A thousand things during our stay in this city has made our heart ache, but nothing so much as the poor Indian. The scenery from San Luis Potosi to this city is increasingly grand, and the engineering from Toluca is perhaps unsurpassed on this continent. But more than all this was enjoyed our stay at the capital of Coapula, where our sixteenth birthday was celebrated by a fiesta provided by active hands and loving hearts, which, as Thackeray says, "will be marked with a white stone." H. A. T.

## WHO PLANNED THE MERRIMAC? A Reply of "C. S. Navy" to Mr. John W. H. Porter.

RICHMOND, VA., March 19, 1892.

Absence from the city and other duties have prevented me from making earlier rethe subject, Who designed the Merrimac? THE BEST FAMILY MEDICINE

desire to wrest the subject from the confusion about to engulf it could tempt me to claim your valuable space.

Could I be sure of the attentive ear of those to whom the subject has become verala quaestio, the vindication of truth would be near at hand, or put in such

THE SUBMERGED ENDS.

This "sheer nonsense," Mr. Editor, is the sole claim of Mr. John M. Brooke's plan and patent. It is the keystone to the arch on which rests the honor of the invention which John M. Brooke claims.

This "sheer nonsense" will not be claimed, of course, by Mr. John W. H. Porter as part of Mr. John L. Porter's model. The sheer nonsense of submerged ends being thus removed from the dispute, gives Mr. Brooke what he claims, and Mr. John L. Porter's model must therefore be based upon the casemate or shield, for there is nothing else which rlan or model can cover.

there is nothing else which rlan or model can cover.

It is apparent that the letters of Mr. W. B. Singleton and Mr. Charles Schroeder, which Mr. Porter prints with his article, speak solely of the casemate or shield, and inasmuch as Mr. John W. H. Porter regards the submerged ends as nonsense, there is nothing in the letters of Mr. Parks and Mr. Borum to exclude the supposition that they, too, bear testimony to the shield and not to the submerged ends.

If the reader will turn to page 16, Southern Historical Papers, volume xix., he will find that Secretary Mallory, in his report to Congress, makes the following statement: "Mr. Porter and Lieutenant Brooke have adopted for their casemate a thickness of wood and iron and an angle of inclination nearly identical."

The letters patent to John M. Brooke refer generally to a casemate of wood and

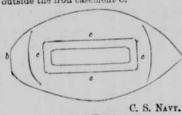
iron at an angle of between forty and fifty degrees, but the specific claim of his plan and patent is the aubmerged bow and stern extending beyond the shield.—Southern Historical Papers, page 31, volume xix. It is apparent, then, that the submerged ends is the peculiar and distinctive feature of the Merrimac indicated by Secretary Mallory (Southern Historical Papers, volume xix., page 18); that this feature is the claim of Mr. Brooke's patent and plan, and that this feature of submerged ends is regarded by Mr. John W. H. Porter as sheer nonsense.

I submit, therefore, that what Mr. Porter so readily rejects Mr. Brooke is entitled to claim, particularly as it is the one thing which he has all along claimed as the specific feature of his plan. The iron shield is no new thing; it has long been known in naval architecture, in harbor defence, and floating batteries, and was used by the French and English in 1858 in the Crimes.

THE OFFICIAL RECORD.

I am aware that the testimony of the gentlemen whose letters Mr. John W. H. Forter, publishes is entitled to high consideration. If these gentlemen will supplement their testimony by averments, which shall also include the feature of submerged ends, their evidence will then be more material to the point in dispute, but even then we should have to regard Mr. Mallory's official report that the Navy Department had previously approved the plan of an ironclad presented by John M. Brooke prior to the date of its order to Messrs. Williamson and Porter to report in Richmond "for consultation on the same subject generally and to aid in the work."—Southern Historical Papers, volume Xix, page 16. THE OFFICIAL BECORD.

impersonality which enters into the solu-tion of an algebraic equation in which X and Y are exponents. I submit the accom-panying diagram of John M. Brooke's plan, A and B being the bow and stern, submerged, and extending under water outside the iron casement C.



That Childless Household.

[San Antenio Express.]
It's nigh on thirty year or more
Since Hannah left her mother,
An' we agreed that she an' i
Could house with one another.

An' all these years of married bliss That I have shared with Hannah, Have gone to prove the difference 'Twixt man an' woman's manner.

Then Hannah has her cats an' dogs, Her poil an' pet canary, While I think more of useful beasts, Ter keep the farm and dairy.

We're both contented with our lot.
I let her have her parrots.
She never minds that I prefer
The turnips, beets, an 'carrots.

For in this life the pretty things Are put beside the common, An' that's the reason why a man Was made to love a woman.



simmons Liver Regulator, a medicine that in-reases in popularity each year, and has be-ome the most popular and best indersed medi-ine in the market for the cure of Liver or Bowel iseases."—Telegraph, Dubuque, Iowa. Endorsed by the use of 7 MILLIONS of bottles as

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Prepared by J. H. ZEHLIN & CO., Philadelphia, Pa. [mh 20-Su,W,F1w]

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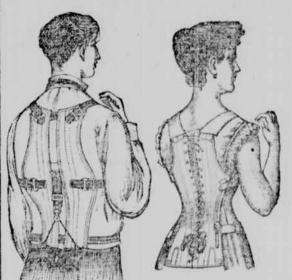
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mh 20-31\*

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to take charge of an infant. Middle-aged woman proferred.

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mh 20-21\*

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